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Maryland PSC Announces New Law Judge, Administrative Team Appointments

(BALTIMORE, MD-June 6, 2018) – The Maryland Public Service Commission announces new appointments to three key administrative posts-- Ryan C. "Chuck" McLean will become Chief Public Utility Law Judge; Terry J. Romine has been named the Commission's new Executive Secretary; and David J. Collins will now serve as the Deputy Executive Secretary.

The Public Utility Law Judge Division applies public utility law in hearing applications for the construction of power plants and electric power lines and conducts hearings and rate cases for gas, electric, telephone and water companies; rate adjustments for purchased gas and electricity; plant and equipment depreciation; and consumer complaints not resolved at the administrative level. In addition, the Division hears matters relating to taxicab and for-hire vehicle permit holders and drivers' licenses.

In his new role, McLean will lead this Division and hear cases. McLean joined the PSC in December 2008 as an Assistant Staff Counsel and was promoted to Deputy Staff Counsel in January 2012. He joined the Public Utility Law Judge Division in May 2014. Before joining the Commission, McLean served as an Assistant County Attorney in Carroll County for approximately four years, focusing on zoning, land-use and procurement issues. He also served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force as a Judge Advocate for approximately four-and-a-half years, and deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. McLean received his J.D., magna cum laude, from the University of Baltimore School of Law and a B.A. from Western Maryland College. He is admitted to the Maryland bar and lives in Catonsville with his wife, Angie, and their two daughters, Gabriella and Madelin.

Romine, the Commission's current Chief Public Utility Law Judge, is returning to her role as Executive Secretary. Collins, the Commission's current Executive Secretary, becomes Deputy Executive Secretary. The Office of Executive Secretary is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Commission; serve as the principal contact for other state and federal agencies, commissions or companies doing business with the Commission; and manage information technology, fiscal and budget issues, personnel, purchasing and procurement. Also, records of all proceedings, filed documents, orders and decisions, dockets and files are maintained by the Executive Secretary.

Romine joined the PSC in 2007 as Deputy Staff Counsel and was first promoted to Executive Secretary in 2007. She was named the Chief Public Utility Law Judge in 2011 and has held that position since then, except for a temporary assignment as Acting Executive Director of the Commission's Technical Staff in 2012. Before joining the Commission, she held in-house counsel positions and also was a private practitioner, with an emphasis on telecommunications law, regulatory policy and administrative law. Romine also served on active duty in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps. Romine received her J.D., with distinction, from the John Marshall Law School and an A.B. from the University of Illinois. She lives in Baltimore City.

Collins joined the PSC in April 2011. He was previously Verizon's Director of State Public Policy and retired in January 2011 after 29 years of serving in various capacities. He holds an M.B.A (with a concentration in finance) and a B.A. in business administration, magna cum laude, from Loyola College. In addition, Collins has a graduate certificate in telecommunications management from The George Washington University. He lives in Bel Air with his wife, Laura.

"The Commissioners and I are grateful and excited to have Judge Romine back to head up our administrative team," said Chairman W. Kevin Hughes. "We are thrilled that Chuck has agreed to lead the PULJ Division and look forward to working with him in his new role. We are also very happy that Dave Collins is staying on as our new Deputy Executive Secretary."

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About the Public Service Commission:

The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities, telephone companies (land lines), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, buses, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.

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